

DECISION NOTICE
Forest Plan Amendment No. 11
Clearwater National Forest
Clearwater County, Idaho

The purpose of Amendment No. 11 of the Clearwater National Forest Plan is to allow for the exchange of the Oviatt Creek Fossil Beds to Potlatch Corporation. Currently these fossil beds are in Management Area M-1 and are designated for retention by the Forest Service.

The need for the change was identified in the environmental analysis of the Johnson Creek/McGarry Butte Land Exchange conducted by the Clearwater National Forest Supervisor's Office. The issue addressed in the environmental analysis was whether or not to exchange the Oviatt Creek Fossil Beds to Potlatch Corporation. An interdisciplinary team analyzed the concern during the environmental analysis and the environmental effects are documented in the Johnson Creek/McGarry Butte Land Exchange Environmental Assessment dated September 9, 1994. This amendment is done in conjunction with the decision to implement Alternative 1 of this Environmental Assessment.

This amendment specifically allows the Clearwater National Forest to exchange out of the Oviatt Creek Fossil Beds and deletes these Fossil beds from the list of Special Interest Areas in Management Area M-1.

Forest Service policy permits Forest Plan amendments resulting from analysis conducted during Forest Plan implementation (36 CFR 219.10(f) and FSM 1922.5). I have determined the proposed changes are not significant since they are adjustments of management area boundaries resulting from further on-site analysis and will not alter the multiple-use goals and objectives for long-term land and resource management.

Adoption of this amendment will not significantly change the forestwide environmental impacts disclosed in the Clearwater National Forest Plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This amendment is categorically excluded from further documentation in an EIS or EA (FSM 1950 and FSH 1909.12).

Additional information can be obtained from:

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Planning Staff Officer
Clearwater National Forest
12730 Highway 12
Orofino, Idaho 83544

(208) 476-4541

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Services Staff Officer
Clearwater National Forest
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This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.7. As stated in 36 CFR 215.11, an appeal may be filed by any person or any non-Federal organization (Federal agencies and Forest Service employees may not appeal) or entity that has provided comment or otherwise expressed interest in this proposal by the close of the comment period specified in 36 CFR 215.6. A written appeal must be submitted within 45 days after the date of the notice of this decision is published in the Lewiston Morning Tribune, Lewiston, ID.

USDA, Forest Service, Northern Region
ATTN: Appeals Deciding Officer (RFO)
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, Montana 59807

Appeals must meet content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14. Detailed records of the environmental analysis are available for public review at the Clearwater National Forest Supervisor's Office, 12730 Highway 12, Orofino, ID 83544. For further information on this decision, contact Bill Jones at the Supervisor's Office or call 208-476-8315.

If no appeal is received, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may not occur for 15 days following the date of appeal disposition.

AMENDMENT NO. 11
August 1994

The Clearwater National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan will be amended as follows:

Page III-65 C. 7. a.

Change from "Retain all National Forest System Lands."

Change to "Retain all National Forest System Lands except Oviatt Creek fossil beds. Palouse District, NW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 12, T.39 N., R. 1 E. (20 acres)."

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Delete "8. Oviatt Creek fossil beds. Palouse District, NW1/4, NE1/4, Sec. 12, T. 39 N., R. 1 E. (20 acres)."


JAMES L. CASWELL
Forest Supervisor


Date